

NABA BARRACKPUR PRAFULLA CHANDRA MAHAVIDYALAYA

INSTITUTIONAL DISTINCTIVENESS

The distinctiveness of the college lies in its prioritization of student-teacher bonding which goes hand in hand with its motto of imparting holistic education to the students. Naba Barrackpur Prafulla Chandra Mahavidyalaya believes not only in imparting pedagogic learning but also in inculcating value education through the cultivation of human values such as *prem, satya, ahimsa, shanti* all of which are also the hallmarks of the New Education Policy. The college firmly believes in the theory that students are the decision makers of the future and a student with a strong mind and a soft heart can truly contribute towards the betterment of the community and the nation.

Since our college is located in an economically backward region, most of our students are first generation learners. They seek admission in our college with high hopes and aspirations. Hence, it is needless to say that imparting education to the students and following the curriculum is not the only duty of the teachers. Teachers play the role of mentors, guides and co-sympathizers which goes a long way in creating a very strong student-teacher bonding.

Student Centric and Participative Learning-Special emphasis is given on student-centric and participative learning methods so that the students take an active role in the learning process and do not merely remain passive learners. Various activities are undertaken to promote participative learning among the students such as movie-screening, interdisciplinary students' seminar, peer teaching, story-writing competition, visit to the book fair etc. This leads to an increased interaction between the students and the teachers which further fosters the student-teacher bonding. A friendly bonding is developed between the teacher and the students to make the students feel free and at home.

Mentor–Mentee System-The college has an active “Mentor–Mentee” system which facilitates a greater intimacy between the students and the teachers. In this system all the students are equally grouped in numbers under the guidance of the faculty, who treat them according to their necessities. The students feel free to approach their mentors regarding all kinds of problems that they fight face both in the college and outside and the mentors help them overcome those problems through proper guidance, support and counselling. Mentor-Mentee meetings are held at regular intervals to keep track of the grievances of the mentees and to resolve them. Besides this, Whats App groups have also been formed with the mentees to remain in constant touch with them. This system ensures that the mentors know each of their mentees personally.

Student Concession-The college takes special care of the the needy meritorious students so that they might have bright prospects. A Teacher's Fund has been created to provide financial assistance to these students. The COVID-19 pandemic has been particularly hard for the economically underprivileged section of the society and keeping in mind the financial hardships of our students, the college has undertaken a "COVID-19 Scheme" to offer concessions to the needy students. These steps taken by the college have helped in strengthening the student-teacher bonding.

Parent-Teacher Meeting-The college strongly believes that the student's progress depends on the care of their parents also. Thus the parent-teachers meetings are held at regular intervals so that the parents remain informed about the progress of their wards, This helps in building a very healthy and cordial relationship between the teachers and the extended family of the students.

Special Care for Slow Learners-The college pays special attention to the needs of the slow learners and the physically challenged students. Special classes are held for the benefit of the slow learners. The teachers are available even outside of class hours to help students with their doubts.

Students Whats app group-Students Whats app groups were created during the pandemic to remain in touch with the students and to share study material with them. This helped in taking the student-teacher bonding one step further.

Psychological Counselling Cell-Another very important aspect of the student-teacher bonding is the psychological counselling that is offered through the Psychological Counselling Cell of the college. The college has signed a MOU with an NGO named "Habra Taranga" to provide psychological counselling to the students, to conduct workshops on mental health etc. The college has also conducted various programmes and add-on courses in this regard.

Student Welfare Committee-The college has an active Student Welfare Committee to take care of students' needs. This committee conducts various programmes to make students aware of the welfare schemes and government scholarships that are available for them such as Kanyashree, Swami Vivekananda Scholarship, Student Credit Card Scheme etc. The students are encouraged to avail these schemes and the both the teachers and the non-teaching staff help them in this regard. The establishment of the Student Welfare Committee has played a crucial role in laying the foundation of a strong student-teacher relationship.

Cultural Programmes-Various cultural programmes such as Teacher's Day, Basanto Utsav, Bhasha Divas, Baishe Shrabon etc are organized in the college which provides an opportunity for a close interaction between the students and the teachers. The students and the teachers jointly participate in these programmes which lends a special warmth to these programmes.

Though it is true that the college has still to go a long way in terms of student enrollment but the silver lining is that the student-teacher ratio is 12:1 which is a very good figure and which facilitates the creation and cultivation of a strong student-teacher bonding.